Restriction of import of Petroleum Products

†3343. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the right to import petroleum products in the country have been given to the oil companies;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that certain restrictions have also been imposed on these imports;

(c) if so, the details of the said restrictions; and

(d) the reasons for not making the petroleum-industry restriction free from Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) As per the extant Exim policy, there are only a few restrictions in the imports of petroleum products viz. transportation fuels and light diesel oil/NGL are allowed to be imported through IOC as State Trading Enterprise with the exception that the companies who have been granted rights for marketing of transportation fuels in terms of Resolution No. P-23015/1/2001-Mkt. Dated 8.3.2002 of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas could import transportation fuels.

Shortage of LPG in Delhi

3344. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi and some areas of Northern India has been facing LPG shortage;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the supply position of LPG in these areas?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) At present, there is no shortage of LPG in Northern India including Delhi. However, there was slight dislocation of LPG supply in various parts of the country in March, 2003 due to the "work to rule" agitation by unions of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and strike of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) employees.

Losses due to Militant Attacks in Assam

†3345. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loss incurred from petroleum products received from Assam's refineries or the refined products crude being transported through pipelines during the last three years on account of militant activities in Assam alongwith the year-wise details thereof;

(b) the details of steps taken by the Government to mitigate the losses increased on account of militant activities; and

(c) the number of persons killed and injured in petroleum industry during the last three years due to militant activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) The information is given at Statement (*See below*):

(b) The security of oil installations in Assam is looked after by the security staff of the Oil Companies, Central Industrial Security Force and Assam Police. The security status is reviewed on a regular basis in coordination with the State Government. After the recent incident of 7th/8th March, 2003, security has been further tightened. The State Government have also been requested to review the security of oil installations in the State in the light of the incident.

(c) During the last three years, no loss of life or injury has been reported in the petroleum industry due to the militant activities.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi